

CLAIMS

1. A print instruction program, stored in a network terminal device outputting a print instruction to a printer with a PDF direct printing function linked to a communication network, for allowing said network terminal device to function as:

a data control unit for controlling PDF direct print data by obtaining mouse event data and file name data on a location where a mouse pointer is positioned from a plug-in unit that adds functions to a browser program;

a data accumulation unit for storing said file name data;

a data display unit for adding a direct print menu for a PDF file in a menu screen displayed in association with clicking of a mouse button; and

a data transmission unit for sending said file name data to said printer with a PDF direct printing function.

2. The print instruction program according to Claim 1, wherein said data control unit changes the mouse pointer to a PDF file specific form when it has determined that said file name data is of a PDF file.

3. The print instruction program according to Claim 1, wherein said data accumulation unit stores a plurality of PDF file names with their respective address data in a list form.

4. The print instruction program according to Claim 3, wherein said direct print menu includes a menu item for sequentially printing PDF files whose file names are included in the list stored in said data accumulation unit.

5. The print instruction program according to Claim 3, wherein said direct print menu includes a menu item for displaying the

list of the PDF file names stored in said data accumulation unit.

6. The print instruction program according to Claim 3, wherein said direct print menu includes a menu item for adding a PDF file name of a new print target at a bottom of the list of the PDF file names stored in said data accumulation unit.

7. The print instruction program according to Claim 3, wherein said data control unit checks the address data of the PDF files stored in said list, so that, for a PDF file to be downloaded from a network address on the Internet, a URL of that PDF file is sent to said printer, and for a PDF file stored at a local address in said network terminal device, that PDF file is sent to said printer.

8. A print instruction method for outputting a print instruction from a network terminal device to a printer with a PDF direct printing function linked to a communication network, comprising the steps of:

checking whether a print target file specified by a mouse pointer on a browser screen is a PDF file;

checking whether the specified file is to be printed by pull printing,

if the pull printing is indicated, reading a PDF direct print menu screen by clicking a mouse while the mouse pointer is kept specifying the file,

storing a network address of the specified file by selecting a menu item to execute direct printing of a PDF file on the PDF direct print menu screen, and

outputting the network address of the specified file to the printer with a PDF direct printing function.

9. The print instruction method according to Claim 8, wherein if the pull printing is not indicated in said step of checking whether the specified file is to be printed by pull printing, the PDF direct print menu screen is read out by clicking the mouse while the mouse pointer is kept specifying the file, the specified PDF file is downloaded and saved in the network terminal device by selecting a menu item for saving an object in a file on the PDF direct print menu screen, and said specified PDF file is outputted to the printer with a PDF direct printing function.

10. The print instruction method according to Claim 8, wherein said step of checking whether a print target file is a PDF file checks based on indication of a file name of the print target file.

11. The print instruction method according to Claim 10, wherein the checking based on the indication of a file name is performed by determining whether a PDF file specific mouse pointer is displayed in the vicinity of the file name.

12. The print instruction method according to Claim 9, wherein said step of checking whether a print target file is a PDF file checks based on indication of a file name of the print target file.

13. The print instruction method according to Claim 12, wherein the checking based on the indication of a file name is performed by determining whether a PDF file specific mouse pointer is displayed in the vicinity of the file name.

14. The print instruction method according to Claim 8, wherein said step of storing the network address adds said network address to a bottom of a list of PDF files to be printed.

15. The print instruction method according to Claim 14, wherein when a network address of a specified PDF file is to be outputted to the printer with a PDF direct printing function by using the list of the PDF files to be printed, it is determined whether pull printing or push printing is performed, depending on the address of said specified PDF file which is either a network address or a local address.